

App. No. 09/893,059(Morrison) ArtUnit2872

DR-AmendmentE (OA-Mar'04)

CLAIM Amendments:

Cancel Claims 10-16 of record, and
substitute Claim 17, 18, 19: (below).

Listing of Claims Status

Claim 1-16(Canceled)

Claim 17, 18, 19 (new).

Claim 17(new): A back-up mirror system to improve safety when a driver begins driving a passenger vehicle in reverse into a lane of cross-traffic, comprising:

- (a) a passenger vehicle, including a driver's seat, a passenger compartment including a left side and a right side and a rear side, a window at said rear side of said passenger compartment, a rear bumper fixed at the rear end of said vehicle, and
- (b) a rear-view mirror physically positioned with mounting means inside said passenger compartment in a location generally forward of said driver's seat row, said rear-view mirror's reflecting surface substantially lying in a vertical plane and which surface is further in a plane substantially parallel with said rear bumper, and
- (c) a back-up mirror physically positioned with mounting means generally against a generally vertical inside surface on said side of said passenger compartment, which position is further substantially aft of said driver's seat row, said position being also located substantially forward of said rear end, said back-up mirror's reflecting surface lying in a substantially vertical plane, which plane is also substantially parallel with said side of said passenger compartment,

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all of whose relative physical locations and reflecting relationships form a physical structure wherein an image of a nearby oncoming cross-traffic object traveling in a lane of cross-traffic crossing behind said vehicle arrives at said driver's seat region via said rear-view mirror's image of said back-up mirror's image,
whereby a driver sees a view of said nearby oncoming cross-traffic object, which information is needed at the moment of deciding the safety of driving said vehicle in reverse into said lane of cross-traffic, whereby a collision can be better avoided, whereby the back-up mirror element does not obstruct normal rear-view images.

Claim 18 (new): A back-up mirror system of Claim 17 whose back-up mirror is physically positioned with mounting means substantially against said right-side of said passenger compartment,
which system forms a physical structure wherein an image of oncoming cross-traffic traveling in a lane of traffic which crosses behind said vehicle, which oncoming cross-traffic is still to the left of said vehicle's rear bumper, arrives at said driver's seat region via said rear-view mirror's image of said back-up mirror's image,
whereby a driver sees a view of said nearby oncoming cross-traffic object approaching from the left, which information is needed at the moment of deciding the safety of driving said vehicle in reverse into said lane of cross-traffic, whereby a collision can be better avoided, whereby the back-up mirror element does not obstruct normal rear-view images.

Claim 19 (new): A back-up mirror system of Claim 17 whose back-up mirror is physically positioned with mounting means substantially against said left-side wall of said passenger compartment,

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which system forms a physical structure wherein an image of oncoming cross-traffic which is still to the right of said vehicle's rear bumper arrives at said driver's seat region via said rear-view mirror's image of said back-up mirror's image,

whereby a driver sees a view of said nearby oncoming cross-traffic object approaching from the right, which information is needed at the moment of deciding the safety of driving said vehicle in reverse into said lane of cross-traffic, whereby a collision can be better avoided, whereby the back-up mirror element does not obstruct normal rear-view images. .

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